



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
726 MINNESOTA AVENUE
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

RECEIVED

JUL 20 1992

SPFD BRANCH

JUL 17 1992

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Removal Assessment at The Granitech Corporation

FROM: Michael *MS* J. Sanderson
Chief, RCRA Branch

TO: Robert Morby
Chief, SPFD Branch

The purpose of this memo is to request that a removal assessment be performed at The Granitech Corporation located in Fairfield, Iowa.

Attached are the documents we have concerning the site. On July 8, 1992, Lynn Slugantz received a phone call from Mr. John Waters with the United States Trustee's office in Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Waters passed on information that the corporation's officers had resigned and the bankruptcy proceeding would be dismissed shortly. The plant has shut down and reportedly there are hazardous materials being stored in the building. Two of these materials (see attached fax from Mr. Waters) are being stored in refrigerators because of their potential to explode. Mr. Waters was concerned that power to the building, and hence to the refrigerator, would be shut off.

Lynn Slugantz of my staff has verbally passed information regarding this site to Karen Flournoy of your staff. Also, on July 13, 1992, Ms. Slugantz faxed information about this site to Jeff Weatherford, ENSV, at his request.

Since the corporation is/was in bankruptcy proceedings and is not currently operating and also due to the presence of hazardous substances at the site and the inability of RCRA to address the potential removal of the wastes in a timely manner, a removal assessment is being requested. If the removal assessment indicates that removal of the wastes is imperative, we ask that Superfund handle that removal.

We do not have any additional information regarding Granitech Corporation in our files at this time. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Lynn at x7883.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Attachments



R00141431
RCRA RECORDS CENTER

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
RECORD OF COMMUNICATION

TO: Lynn Slugantz

DATE: 7/8/92

FROM: John Waters, ^{Office of United}
States Trustee TIME: ~~1:15~~ PM
515-284-4982

SUBJECT: Granitech

PHONE CALL ~~cor-~~ MEETING

Mr. Waters works with the Office of United States Trustee and he wanted to pass on the following information:

A ~~comp~~ corporation named Granitech Corporation in Fairfield, Iowa had been in bankruptcy court. However, yesterday all the officers and directors had resigned and hence the bankruptcy proceeding would be dismissed. The plant was shut down late last week and a shareholders meeting to decide what to do is to be held July 17. Mr. Waters is concerned about the hazardous substances which are being stored at the site. He said he could fax me some information that says there is a peroxide, a catalyst which reacts with peroxide and several supersacs of polyester resin at the site. The first two are in a refrigerator but it is unknown how much longer before the electricity may be turned off.

Mr. Waters also said the building was being purchased on contract from Iowa Electric & Power Co. Their attorney is Andy Matthews and the person in Fairfield is Warren Repp (515-472-8167). →

cc:



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Trustee
District of Minnesota, Iowa
North Dakota and South Dakota

Federal Bldg., Room 517
210 Walnut St.
Des Moines, IA 50309

515/284-4982

FAX NUMBER 8-515-284-4986

DATE: 7-8-92

I. TRANSMITTED TO: Lynn Slugantz

ORGANIZATION: EPA

FAX PHONE # 913-551-7521

II. TRANSMITTED FROM: John Waters

ORGANIZATION: OFFICE OF UNITED STATES TRUSTEE
DES MOINES, IOWA

PHONE #'S FTS 8-515-284-4982 OR COMMERCIAL 515-284-4982

III. # OF PAGES TRANSMITTED: 3 (COVER SHEET COUNTS AS ONE)

CONTENTS/COMMENTS: _____

NOTE: IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE THE NUMBER OF PAGES LISTED IN III ABOVE, PLEASE CALL THE
SENDER AT THE NUMBER LISTED IN II ABOVE.

GRANITECH

High Performance Stone Surfacing

The Granitech Corporation
600 South 23rd Street
Fairfield, Iowa 52556
Tel. 515-472-6161
Fax 515-472-6100

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jim Mackay
FROM: Chris Banus
DATE: June 30, 1992
RE: Housekeeping/FYI

1. Hazardous materials in plant

- a. USP 245: Stored in refrigerators near power panel. If refrigerators fail and temperature reaches 109° F USP 245 will begin a self accelerating decomposition which could cause a fire. We have 5 gallons of USP 245 in refrigerators next to warm room.
- b. Catalyst 510: This is a very hazardous (can explode) in the presence of a peroxide: Either USP 245 or MEKP.
- c. There are several super sacks of dirt contaminated with polyester resin sitting behind the building. They must be disposed of in accordance with DNR/EPA regulations and time frame (almost 30 days left). We had been using Service Alliance/Quad City Safety, P.O. Box 559 - 206 43rd Street, Moline, IL 61265-0559 (Mike Smeaton - 1-800-383-6850) as our OSHA/EPA vendor: Mr. Terry Butler is the manager from Service Alliance who has been working with The Granitech Corporation in this and other safety issues. We owe Service Alliance about \$4,500. They know we are in Chapter 11 so you will have to prepay for any services they render.
- d. Material and Safety Data Sheets for all the chemicals in the plant/manufacturer/R & D areas are in the book case behind Dale Starkey's desk.
- e. The resin in drums from the manufacturer is considered stable indefinitely except in the presence of fire.

2. Water

- a. Water to the plant operations is shut off in the plant.
- b. Water to the sprinklers is on.
- c. By July 6th you will have to pay a water bill or the city will turn all water supply off in the street.

3. General Plant Shut Down

- a. Gas/power to big water heater is off

- b. Power to equipment all off
- c. Heater in warm room off.

4. **Plant Security**

- a. All doors except the front office door have been secured from the inside. The front office door is secured with 2 locks. The lower lock is operated with the green key that has been used by all employees. There are probably several floating around. The upper lock is a dead bolt and is operated by a new yellow key. According to L. Bolstere, former plant engineer who installed the system, there is only one key to the lock which I now have.
- b. Enclosed are 2 groups of keys which open the fire proof safe and various other file cabinets.

5. **Formulation Sheets/R & D Sheets/Production Sheets**

Notebooks and sheets containing production & R & D formulations have been gathered and placed in the fire proof safe. Enclosed are the back up discs of production formulations that is kept off premises in case of fire.

6. **Communications**

The answering machines are set up for 472-5161 and our 800# to say "We are closed for the 4th of July holiday until Monday July 6th".

7. **Liability Insurance on building and contents**

Covered by Holmes Murphy and is canceled for non-payment. It can be reinstated for \$4,200 in the next week. Contact Dan Tye at Holmes Murphy in Des Moines. The company will have to adopt the policy under Chapter 11.

- 8. Because it will probably be difficult for you to arrange to look after the plant, I am willing to come by the plant daily till Monday, July 6th to check on the hazardous materials, collect the mail and take care of any ordinary administrative things/notices that the mail may bring. I am not willing to do this beyond Monday.

Jerry and I are resigning shortly. There will be no one in the building tomorrow. Jerry is at home in Pennsylvania with pneumonia and I am going home to rest from the extreme exhaustion until Monday.

Other than 15 minutes a day to check on the building, I'm not available for anything but rest until Monday or Tuesday.

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
RECORD OF COMMUNICATION

TO: Lynn Slugantz

DATE: 7/8/92

FROM: John Waters, ^{Office of United States Trustee} TIME: ~~3:45~~ PM
515-284-4982

SUBJECT: Granitech

PHONE CALL or - MEETING

MR. Waters works with the Office of United States Trustee and he wanted to pass on the following information:

A ~~comp~~ corporation named Granitech Corporation in Fairfield, Iowa had been in bankruptcy court. However, yesterday all the officers and directors had resigned and hence the bankruptcy proceeding would be dismissed. The plant was shut down late last week and a shareholders meeting to decide what to do is to be held July 17. Mr. Waters is concerned about the hazardous substances which are being stored at the site. He said he could fax me some information that says there is a peroxide, a catalyst which reacts with peroxide and several supersacs of polyester resin at the site. The first two are in a refrigerator but it is unknown how much longer before the electricity may be turned off.

Mr. Waters also said the building was being purchased on contract from Iowa Electric & Power Co. Their attorney is Andy Matthews and the person in Fairfield is Warren Repp (515-472-8167). →

CC:

The doctors' attorney is Steven Gerard at 319-354-6080 and he can put us in touch with the former mgmt.

The Investors' atty is Tom Flynn at 515-243-7100. They apparently had hired a gentleman by the name of Jim ~~Horras~~ Horras to look after the building and he has kept but it is unknown how long he will continue to do this.

I thanked Mr. Waters for the information and promised to pass this info along to the appropriate people.